

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : April 6, 2001
I. O. Albazz, et al : IBM Corporation
: Dept. T81/Bldg. 062
Serial No. Not Assigned Yet : P. O. Box 12195
Filed: Herewith : Res. Tri. Park, NC 27709
For: System and Method for :
Generating a Contract and :
Conducting Contractual Activities :
Under the Contract :


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract
which is attached on a separate sheet. A marked up copy showing
the changes is also attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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Docket No: CA920000034US1

1

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GENERATING A CONTRACT AND CONDUCTING
CONTRACTUAL ACTIVITIES UNDER THE CONTRACT**

A Business Rules Book contains a set of rules from which specific rules may be selected for inclusion in a contract. A Terms and Conditions Set representing a unique set of instances of rules selected from the Business Rules Book is selected from stored Terms and Conditions Sets. The provisions of the contract are settled by agreeing to a mutually acceptable set of Terms and Conditions. A Product List Filter is created specific to each seller or buyer, targeting products in which there is a mutual interest. The Business Rules Book, Terms and Conditions and Product List Filter are linked in a contract profile, to create the agreement between the seller and the buyer, and the contract is locked. Subsequent contractual activities under the contract are executed through the contract, which automatically inserts values from the terms and conditions.

Patent Abstract of the Disclosure

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GENERATING A CONTRACT AND CONDUCTING CONTRACTUAL ACTIVITIES UNDER THE CONTRACT

ABSTRACT

5 [A system and method for automating the contract negotiation and preparation cycle and
 for electronically facilitating subsequent contractual activities executed pursuant to the contract.
 The system for generating a contract comprises a Business Rules Book ^A [containing] ^{Contains} a set of rules
 from which specific rules may be selected for inclusion in ^a [the] contract. A Terms and Conditions
 Set representing a unique set of instances of rules selected from the Business Rules Book is
 selected from [a plurality of] stored Terms and Conditions Sets. The [seller and the buyer settle the]
 10 provisions of the contract ^{are settled} by agreeing to a mutually acceptable set of Terms and Conditions. [The
 administering organization creates a] ^a Product List Filter ^{is created} specific to each seller or buyer, targeting
 products in which there is a mutual interest. The Business Rules Book, Terms and Conditions and
 Product List Filter are linked in a contract profile, to create [a contract representing] the agreement
 between the seller and the buyer, and the contract is locked. Subsequent contractual activities
 under the contract are executed through the contract, which automatically inserts values from the
 terms and conditions ^{of} the contract to ensure conformity with the terms of the contract and
 minimize manual administrative activities.]